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DATE

11/1/74

TO:

AGENCY BLDG. ROOM

Mr. Gardell

Room 11-07

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☐ SIGNATURE ☐ NOTE AND SEE ME ☐ AS REQUESTED  
☐ COMMENT ☐ NOTE AND RETURN ☐ NECESSARY ACTION  
☒ FOR YOUR INFORMATION  
☐ PREPARE REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS:

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To Roland L. Peterson  
From  
PHONE BUILDING ROOM  
31710 Parklawn

HEW-30 REV. 11/56

ROUTE SLIP

GPO : 1973 O - 517-326

TO : HRP Executive Staff

FROM : R. L. Peterson 

SUBJECT: HRP Executive Staff Meeting, October 29

Rescheduling of the regional HRP orientation sessions was agreed to. The dates and tentative regional groupings are as follows: January 14-15 (HEW Regions V and VII or IV and VI), 20-21 (I, II, and III), 23-24 (VIII, IX, and X), 28-29 (IV and VI or V and VII). Mr. Gilmer will proceed to check out specific locations, city and hotel; every attempt will be made to hold the January 20-21 meeting with CHP, EHSDS, Hill-Burton, and RMP representatives from Regions I, II, and III in Washington.

Dr. Rorrie in turn will proceed with development of the agenda for these sessions. Since the intent is to have these meetings whether or not HRP legislation is enacted this session, this will necessitate developing a fall-back agenda as well. On November 14 he will meet with representatives from the regional offices and the RMP, ES, and CHP programs to get their inputs and assistance.

The major topic for consideration was the proposed HRP area designation process, the previously distributed draft dated 10/18/74 and transmittal memo of 10/24/74 to the RHAs. Dr. Wherritt was present.

Among the main points made, and areas of tentative agreement (or disagreement) reached, were the following:

1. The draft proposal was on the whole a good one.
2. Delegation of approval authority for area designations to the HRA Administrator specifically, as suggested by Mr. Rubel, was viewed favorably. Dr. Wherritt initially had indicated he favored such delegation be made to the RHAs. However, the desirability of having all approvals announced, published in the Federal Register, at one time, and the so-called 'falling domino' phenomenon resulting from denial of waiver requests or other non-approval actions, led Dr. Wherritt to concur that little purpose would be served by ten separate but simultaneous FR announcements.
3. Mr. Rubel wanted to see all needed delegations of authority, and not just that for area designation approval, requested and obtained at the same time. In that connection he stated that he strongly favored delegating most other approval authority (e.g., agency selection funding) to the RHAs.
4. Dr. Wherritt felt that the letters to governors should go out from the RHAs rather than the Secretary.

5. The notion of using a joint regional office-central office panel to review certain specified "exceptions," including all waiver requests, drew no dissent.
6. There was general agreement as to the desirability of having more time for Federal review, negotiation, and approval of proposed area designations, than the House bill provides. Mr. Rubel was hopeful this could be worked out in conference.

Dr. Wherritt will coordinate and transmit the comments and suggestions of all the RHAs as regards the October 18 draft proposal. (Copies of his earlier memo of October 10 responding to area designation issues and problems, will be distributed by Mr. Peterson to the HRP executive staff.)

There also was a brief discussion relative to staff training. Miss Richards, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Orientation and Training Committee, was asked to insure that it came up with a broad, comprehensive training program and strategy.

HRP executive staff will meet again this Monday, November 4, at 9:00 a.m. At that time there will be further consideration of the regional orientation sessions. Thus, please review and bring with you the draft document (10/29/74) distributed at last Tuesday's meeting.

cc: Dr. Ellis  
Dr. Wherritt